

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 23 are pending and claim 24 is objected to.
No claims are allowed.

1. Claim 24 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 1. Claim 24 has been amended to call out that "the connection ring comprises at least one pin mounted in a coupling sleeve against which the spring is biased by the locking ring, the sleeve being slideable about the shank so as to operate a ball-detent". This aspect of the applicants' invention is believed to render independent claim 24 of a different scope in comparison to independent claim 1.

Reconsideration of this objection is requested.

2. Claims 1 to 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. The indefinite language noted in independent claim 1 by the examiner has been amended. Accordingly, claim 2 to 23 are patentable as hinging from an allowable base claim.

Reconsideration of this rejection is requested.

It is believed that claims 1 to 24 are now in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is requested.

Respectfully submitted,


Michael F. Scalise
Reg. No. 34,920

Greatbatch, Inc.
10,000 Wehrle Drive
Clarence, New York 14031
716-759-5810
August 18, 2010